



Integrating  
science, technology,  
and fire management.

## Wildland Fire Management RD&A

### GA Editor WEBINAR – June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2016 – 1300 MT

1-888-844-9904, 9320471#

#### Call purpose:

To share information between and amongst the GAEs and the RDA to promote coordination and information exchange to and from users.

#### Roll Call:

**Alaska:** ☐ Doug Alexander ☐ Peter Butteri ☒ Kathryn Pyne ☒ Brian Sorbel ☒ Tom St. Clair ☐ Dan Warthin ☐ Zeke Ziel

**Eastern:** ☐ Brian Bischof ☐ Steven Goldman ☐ Raymond Parrish ☐ Greg Peterson ☒ Cody Wienk

**Great Basin:** ☒ Michael Boomer ☒ Mesia Nyman ☒ Jeremy Sisneros

**NorCal:** ☐ Jennifer Anderson ☐ Jason Fallon ☐ Yvonne Jones ☐ Jessica Wade

**SoCal:** ☒ Phil Bowden ☐ Mark Grupe ☐ James Newman ☐ Jan Rea

**Northern Rockies:** ☐ Nikia Hernandez ☐ Kim Kelly ☐ Robert LaPlant ☐ Pat Phillips ☐ Ken Schmid ☐ Rich Sterry ☒ Brenda Wilmore ☒ Jacquie Parks (detailed)

**Northwest:** ☐ Brett Fay ☒ Craig Goodell ☐ Jason Loomis ☐ Michael Powell ☒ Rick Stratton

**Rocky Mountain:** ☐ Richard Gustafson ☒ Mark Nelson ☒ Gwenan Poirier ☐ Rocco Snart ☐ Nathan Williamson

**Southwest:** ☒ John Cervante ☐ Bil Grauel ☒ Kenneth Jaramillo ☐ Mark Pater ☐ Harold Riggs ☒ Lisa Bye

**Southern:** ☐ Reeve Armstrong ☐ Clint Cross ☐ Missy Forder ☐ Jon Wallace

**Non-GAEs that periodically attend:** ☒ Kristy Swartz ☐ Russ Babiak ☐ Jesse Duhnkrack ☒ Justin Boeck

**RDA Staff:** ☒ Andrew Bailey ☐ Ben Butler ☐ Caroline Noble ☐ Dan Mindar ☐ Lisa Elenz ☐ Erin Noonan-Wright ☐ Mark Hale ☒ Marlena Hovorka ☒ Kim Ernstrom ☒ Mitch Burgard ☒ Morgan Pence ☒ Diane Rau ☐ Sam Amato ☒ Tami Parkinson ☒ Tonja Opperman ☐ Reggie Goolsby ☐ Tim Sexton ☐ Bri Schueller

**Warren Appelhauns**

**Note taker:** Tami Parkinson

#### Attachments:

- Action Items
- GAE Guide, page 7 on setting notifications
- Emailed separately
  - IRWIN FAQs
  - Action Item 15-2 NWCG memo recommendations.
  - Link to Author's Guide
  - Info from Tim Sexton on Decision Support Resources

#### Agenda Items:

##### General- Morgan Pence

- Welcome new GAEs: Justin Boeck on detail behind Kristy Swartz, Fire Planning for BLM
- [Calendar Review](#)
  - Includes data updates and other important information for GAE's



## Wildland Fire Management RD&A

- New resource available: Author's Guide to WFDSS Decision Making  
[http://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/pdfs/Author\\_Role.pdf](http://wfdss.usgs.gov/wfdss/pdfs/Author_Role.pdf)
  - Sent out 6/16 from Morgan Pence
  - Not a button pushing guide, more about the roles and how to make the decisions
  - Please provide feedback to Diane Rau
  - Kristi Swartz has feedback from BLM perspective
- DOA/Leaders Intent Materials sent out, available:  
[http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference\\_&\\_guidance.php](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference_&_guidance.php) Feedback due to RDA by Sept. 15th.
- Spreadsheet and video posted regarding the Benefits Analysis Framework shared last month by Tonja Opperman, available: [http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference\\_&\\_guidance.php](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference_&_guidance.php)
  - Video is posted, take a look if interested
- Managing Notification lists. GAEs that want to receive notifications for Fire Behavior Request in WFDSS and a Geographic Area Summaries follow steps on page 7 of the GAE Reference Guide
  - Morgan sent the GAE reference guide 6/14
- REMINDER Backup Paper WFDSS updated and posted:  
[http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference\\_&\\_guidance.php](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/reference_&_guidance.php) as a fillable pdf:  
[http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/Reference\\_Materials/WFDSS\\_Paper\\_Form\\_2016.pdf](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov/docs/Reference_Materials/WFDSS_Paper_Form_2016.pdf)
  - This is a temporary decision document in the event WFDSS is down

### RDA Program Manager- Tim Sexton

- Recently sent a list of Decision Support Tools for distribution to FS Regional Fire Directors and forwarded to GAEs
  - 6/16 Morgan sent an email with a letter Tim sent to Fire Directors etc, please share the information accordingly

### Emerging Issues- All Call Participants

- Are we going to discuss the hiccups the system was having? Yes it will be in the WFDSS updates

### General- Lisa Elenz

- Pete Lahm (National Air Resource Specialist) requesting to pass along the name of fires in which GAE's feel smoke was well addressed in Incident Objectives, Incident Requirements, or Course of Action. Send name of fire to Lisa ([lelenz@fs.fed.us](mailto:lelenz@fs.fed.us)) – [plahm@fs.fed.us](mailto:plahm@fs.fed.us) would also like this information
- On detail to DC back July 15th

### WFDSS Quick Tip – Ben Butler

- How to set up a FB notification
  - Check out page 7 on how to set up the notification
    - Admin tab
    - Notification tab on pull out menu
      - Select fire behavior
      - If you want all requests nationally or regionally which ever fits your needs
    - Go into contact information to update the email if you want regular texts to come in for feedback



- Check your contact information periodically so the current information is displayed in the system.

### WFDSS Updates - Mitch Burgard & Marlena Hovorka

- Contract status
  - Incident Groups in WFDSS can now have up to 80 incidents
- Frequently received Helpdesk questions
  - NTFB failures
    - There is a delay in processing the results but it is working
  - Data Manger shape loading issues
    - Fixed on Sunday
  - Group limitations have been bumped to 80 incidents, if you try to download the KMZ file likely it will crash

### IRWIN Status - Andrew Bailey

- IRWIN Status
  - FAQs document – sent the document out 6/16 by Morgan
    - Describes common problems and errors with many systems, this is a good reference document
  - IRWIN Helpdesk – they are helping to track various issues and occurrences - a helpdesk number is forthcoming and will be sent out when available
- IRWIN issues - Fewer issues this year with IRWIN than in the past, relative to the level of fire activity we are seeing
- IDEAS group report out- Gwenan Poirier
  - Meeting rescheduled for next week

### Geospatial Data - Andrew Bailey/Ben Butler

- FMU/Strategic Objective Shapes update – got in a bit late... about 4 days
  - BLM Horse and Burro Management areas updated Friday June 10th
- Data Refresh for June
  - Sage grouse habitat was updated, all lands data
  - Data coming in the que
    - BLM management requirements for sage grouse
    - AK state wide management requirements – No time frames known at this time
    - Retardant avoidance data set
- No data update in June, have data updates to agency leads middle of July and should be loaded in WFDSS August 3<sup>rd</sup>, following update dates include October, December
- Less issues this year with data than in the past
  -

### Spatial Fire Planning- Mark Hale

- Mark available to answer questions during call or offline as needed



## Review Action Items- Morgan Pence

We have a lot of new Action Items, that combined with carry over ones, will be too many to discuss all on every call. I will rotate which ones to hit on each month. If I don't hit on one someone thinks we should for a given month just let me know. Suggested for this month are the following:

- 15-2, about NWCG Memos
  - Morgan sent some of the recommendations out to GAE's
  - GAE roles document- recommended retiring this document and update the user roles section, also could take a review of the WFDSS Guide to identify other duplications or changes
  - WFDSS requirements – when required to do a WFDSS decision
    - A lot of overlap with Redbook chapter 11, potentially retire the memo and point to the Red book for reference
    - Recommending to solicit comments from various NWCG committee – planning, training etc
  - Multiple objectives direction is fuzzy – protection objectives, and resource benefit direction – this was confusing stated within chapter 11
  - Provide comments to this small group by July
    - Tried to minimum memos and rely more on the redbook rather than duplicate
- 15-9, about Incident Groups and decisions
  - Needs to tie in with the other small group Gwenan etc
- 15-10, about Incident Objectives being required to publish a decision
- 15-15, about the GAE calendar, close out if no one objects
- 15-17, about the AA/Line officer webinar, close out

## Round Robin:

Share coordination opportunities, anticipated fire activity and trainings, share feedback from WFDSS users, etc.

- Alaska: Some activity in rural AK, pretty quiet
- Eastern: quiet
- Great Basin: NA
- NorCal: 120 day detailer behind Larry Hood, Amy Ziegler will detail into this position
- SoCal: NA
- Northern Rockies: WFDSS training at local unit
- Northwest: a couple large fires, surges of heat and moisture passing through, some WFDSS training throughout the region
- Rocky Mountain: na
- Southwest: NA
- Southern: NA



### Next Call

- July 21st at 1300 MT

### Main WFMRD&A contacts for WFDSS related items:

- WFDSS Enhancements/Releases: Mitch Burgard and Marlena Hovorka [mburgard@fs.fed.us](mailto:mburgard@fs.fed.us), [mhovorka@fs.fed.us](mailto:mhovorka@fs.fed.us)
- WFDSS Data: Andrew Bailey and Ben Butler [Andrew\\_bailey@nps.gov](mailto:Andrew_bailey@nps.gov), [bbutler@fs.fed.us](mailto:bbutler@fs.fed.us)
- WFDSS Role Issues: National Editors, Lisa Elenz, Mitch Burgard, and Marlena Hovorka [lelenz@fs.fed.us](mailto:lelenz@fs.fed.us), [mburgard@fs.fed.us](mailto:mburgard@fs.fed.us), [mhovorka@fs.fed.us](mailto:mhovorka@fs.fed.us)
- IRWIN WFDSS liaison: Andrew Bailey [Andrew\\_bailey@nps.gov](mailto:Andrew_bailey@nps.gov)
- WFDSS Spatial Fire Planning: Mark Hale, Marlena Hovorka, Diane Rau [mahale@fs.fed.us](mailto:mahale@fs.fed.us), [mhovorka@fs.fed.us](mailto:mhovorka@fs.fed.us), [dianerau@fs.fed.us](mailto:dianerau@fs.fed.us)
- WFDSS Help Content and Training Resources: Diane Rau [dianerau@fs.fed.us](mailto:dianerau@fs.fed.us)
- Active incident decision and analysis support: All NFDSC personnel, best to contact On Call Coordinator (208) 473-8107
- IFTDSS: Caroline Noble and Kim Ernstrom [carolinelnoble@fs.fed.us](mailto:carolinelnoble@fs.fed.us), [kim\\_ernstrom@nps.gov](mailto:kim_ernstrom@nps.gov)
- GAE call management: Morgan Pence [morganpence@fs.fed.us](mailto:morganpence@fs.fed.us)
- When in doubt contact Lisa Elenz: [lelenz@fs.fed.us](mailto:lelenz@fs.fed.us)

### References

[Reference and Guidance](#) from [www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov) page

- Incident Objectives project
  - Briefing paper
  - Past Presentations
- Risk Assessment
  - Strategic Level Risk Assessments for Fire Behavior Specialists - WFDSS YouTube Channel
- Example Decisions
  - Gold Pan
  - Salt Springs
- Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents
  - GTR
- WFDSS Related Documents
  - Wildland Fire Management Risk and Complexity Assessment
  - Complexing Fire Decision Documentation
  - Data Sharing Between Incident Tracking and Reporting Systems
- Wildland Fire Decision Support Tools
- Other References
  - NWCG Risk and Complexity Assessment
  - NWCG Official Memos

[GA Editor Resources](#) from [www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov) page



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- [GAE Reference Guide](#)

[Line Officer Resources](#) from [www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov](http://www.wfmrda.nwcg.gov) page

- Line Officer Guide
  - Leaders Intent Documentation
  - Line Officer Guide and Templates
- Forest Service Agency Administrator Coach/Shadow Program
  - AA Certification Guide
  - Pathways Diagram
  - USFS Learning Action Plan
  - USFS AA Hubbard Memo
- Incident Objectives Project
- WFDSS Refresher Training Recommendations for AA's
- Decision Making for Wildland Fire Incidents - GTR
- USFS Fire Response Protocols

"What Fire Behavior Specialists Need to Know About WFDSS" posted under the [Modeling Learning Resources](#) on the "WFDSS Training" page.

"What You Need to Know About WFDSS" posted under the [Decision Learning Resources](#) on the "WFDSS training" page.